

REMARKS

With the foregoing amendments, claims 2, 5, 6, 8, 10, 11, 13, 15-20, 22, 24 and 25 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 3-4, 7, 9, and 12 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Previously objected to claim 2 has been rewritten in independent form. Claims 8 and 10 have been amended to change claim dependency. No new matter has been added. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of all outstanding rejections in view of the following remarks.

Allowable Subject Matter

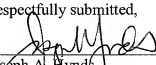
Applicants note with appreciation that claims 13, 15-20, 22, 24 and 25 are allowed and that claim 2 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. As stated above, claim 2 has been rewritten in independent form and is now in condition for allowance. Claims 5, 6, 8, 10 and 11 are dependent from allowable independent claim 2 and are thus allowable for the same reasons.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that this application is in condition for allowance and should now be passed to issue. A Notice of Allowance is therefore respectfully solicited. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned if it is deemed to expedite allowance of the application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees and to credit any overpayments that may be required by this paper under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 02-2135.

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Respectfully submitted,
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